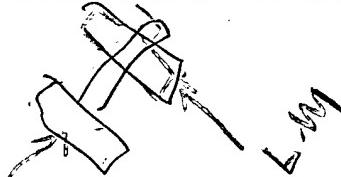


Draft For Interview purposes Only

I claim:

1. A device for setting different ear attachment methods on earrings; said device is comprised of a universal female connector and a plurality of removable and selectable male connectors; where said female connector is comprised of a side that is attached to the back of the earring, a female receptacle [where said receptacle has a single entry and ends on one side of said receptacle], and a mechanism to lock in place a selectable and attachable male connector to said female connector, and where each of the said selectable male connector implements a different method of attaching an earring to an ear.]
2. The universal ear attachment of claim 1 wherein: the female receptacle is perpendicular to said side that attaches to the earring.
3. The universal ear attachment of claim 1 wherein: the female receptacle is parallel and along said side that attaches to the earring.
4. A universal female connector where said female connector is comprised of a side that is attached to the back of the earring, a female receptacle [where said receptacle has a single entry and ends on one side of said receptacle], and a locking mechanism.
5. A male connector where said male connector is comprised of a coupling mechanism, [a method of attaching an earring to an ear and] a locking mechanism; where said coupling mechanism consists of a single male member [to be inserted on a female connector where said female connector has a female receptacle where said receptacle has a single entry and ends on one side of said receptacle.]



structure/not
intended use

Application NO. 10/643,850

Major Topics and Issues to discuss with patent reviewer.

how it is claimed

The claimed infringed patent (Keating 5438850) is different than mine because:

1. Theirs is basically for a "Button jewelry" to be used on clothing, and mine is for earrings to be used on ears.
2. On their patent, it is very difficult to generate centered posts (where 90% of post earrings have their post). Since their patent has 3 parts
 - a. Where the post is located
 - b. The locking mechanism
 - c. Extension opposite to post

To locate a post in the center in this patent you need to offset the locking mechanism to the side, which makes the length of the complete patent the maximum radius of the back earring. And since the patent has 3 parts this limits the size of earrings where it can be used. And to satisfy the needs of those sizes that they can produce, they will need several sizes of their patent, and this is a major drawback for the jeweler using this patent. Our patent has the capability of centering the female and male post in the earring. The limiting size of earrings will be the minimum size we can make the female, and this can be made as small as needed.

3. Their patent when using the clip to attach to the ear will not be comfortable for the user. The ear will have to be attached to a non flat surface, since the ear will be on top of where their locking mechanism is. This will also has the potential for the user to be pinched. Our patent has only flat surfaces for the male clip mechanism.
4. Their patent has the possibility of disengaging the lock mechanism when the user is putting or taking out the earring. It is very easy to lock or unlock the male clip. Having a disengaged lock mechanism has the potential for losing the earring. This is a major problem, specially if the earring is expensive. With our patent, once you put the pin into the female and bend it, it is very secure.
5. The total height of the patent is too large for some earrings. If the base of the post or clip is to far from the earring, the earring may bend on the ear, making it unusable. The total height of the patent is composed of 3 parts
 - a. The thickness of the male connector
 - b. The thickness of the locking mechanism
 - c. The additional height the locking mechanism must have to be able to pass the male connector through the locking match.

Our patent has as a limiting height the height of the female connector, which can be made very small.

6. The patent was created to give the final user options, ours was to give the jeweler options.
7. Our patent is already being used. Theirs has never been marketed for earrings.

Claim 1, Line 4, after "selectable", insert:

(A) -- having only a single entry for receiving one of the selectable male connectors, each one of the male connectors being complementary shaped to a shape of said female selectable, such that a selectable male connector is received into the female receptacle of the female connector.

prepared for applicant by examiner

Frank Robert Sandy
D.S.R./Oordknecht

10/643/850

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Urgent X Ⓛ For Review Ⓛ Please Comment ⓁPlease

Mr. Reese:

I am sending you as you requested a list of the major topics and issues I would like to discuss with you regarding my patent application No. 10/643850, and my proposed modified claims to avoid conflict with the cited previous patents

I will see you on Wednesday February 23, 2005 at 9:00 AM to discuss these issues. If you have any questions before our meeting, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Ph: 703-883-1262

Sincerely,

Carlos Gonzalez,

